

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed June 7, 2010, has been reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. No new matter has been added. Upon entry of the present paper, claims 1-14, 17, 20-30, and 35-37 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 15, 16, 18, 19, and 31-34 are pending upon entry of the present paper. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 6, 9, 13, 14, 22, and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. pub. no. 2004/0246932, hereinafter Fischer, in view of U.S. pub. no. 2006/0193296, hereinafter Zhong. Claims 7 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fischer in view of Zhong and further in view of U.S. pub. no. 2002/0131371, hereinafter Runick. Without acquiescing to the rejections, the rejected claims have been canceled in the present paper in order to expedite prosecution. Thus, the standing rejections are moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 15, 16, 18, 19 and 31-34 are allowed at pages 1 and 9 of the Office Action. The allowed claims correspond to the pending claims upon entry of this paper. Accordingly, Applicants submit that this paper is suitable for immediate entry. *See* MPEP § 714.12 (providing that any amendment after a final rejection that will place the application in condition for allowance may be entered).

CONCLUSION

All rejections having been addressed, Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same. If any additional required fees are or if an overpayment has been made the Commissioner is authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 19-0733. Applicants look forward to passage to issue of the present application at the earliest convenience of the Office.

Appl. No. 10/563,953
Response dated August 12, 2010
Reply to Office Action of June 7, 2010

Respectfully submitted,
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Date: August 12, 2010

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